

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DYNAMIC RATE FLOW CONTROL

ABSTRACT

5 A system and method for providing dynamic rate flow control. An originating entity sets requested and target rates of communication within a communication sent to a destination entity. The requested and target rates may be expressed in terms of a “time to next communication” (e.g., a period of delay between transmission of successive communications). Intermediate devices (e.g., switches,
10 routers) may decrease a target rate (thereby increasing the time between communications) but not the requested rate. Through a feedback process, the destination entity (or an intermediate entity) reports the target rate, and possibly the requested rate, back to the originator, which may accept and implement a reduced rate of communication, select a different communication channel, etc.